UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

IN RE:

GALLERIA 2425 OWNER, LLC, § **CASE NO. 23-34815**

DEBTOR. \$ CHAPTER 11

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE'S LIMITED OBJECTION AND RESERVATION OF RIGHTS TO DEBTOR'S APPLICATION TO EMPLOY ATTORNEYS [ECF 67]

Responds and Objects the Pleading Filed at [ECF 67]

TO THE HONORABLE JEFFREY P. NORMAN, UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

KEVIN M. EPSTEIN, the United States Trustee for Region 7 (the "U.S. Trustee), files this Limited Objection and Reservation of Rights to Debtor's Application to Employ Attorneys [ECF 67] (the "Limited Objection") responding and objecting, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 327, to the Debtor's Application to Employ Attorneys [ECF 67] (the "Application"), because the U.S. Trustee submitted comments and requested revisions to the proposed retention order to which the Debtor has not responded, and states as follows:

I. Procedural and Factual Background

- 1. On December 5, 2023, (the "Petition Date"), Galleria 2425 Owner, LLC (the "Debtor") filed a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.* (the "Bankruptcy Code") with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division (the "Court"). This Court has not appointed a Trustee or Examiner, nor has an official committed been established in this Chapter 11 proceeding. On January 10, 2024, the meeting of creditors was held and concluded.
- 2. This is a single asset real estate case, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §101(51B). The Debtor owns a commercial high-rise office building located at 2425 West Loop South, Houston, Texas

77027.

- 3. On December 22, 2023, Debtor filed the Application seeking authority to retain and employ the Reese W. Baker and Baker & Associates (collectively, "Baker") as its attorney in all matters arising in or related to this case, effective as of December 6, 2023.
- 4. On January 26, 2024, the U.S. Trustee submitted written comments to the Application and requested specific revisions to the proposed Order to conform the Debtor's retention and employment of Baker, as counsel, to the requirements of 11 U.S.C. §§ 327 and 330. As of the date of this Limited Objection, Debtor has failed to respond to the U.S. Trustee's written comments and requested revisions. Accordingly, the U.S. Trustee files this Limited Objection to reserve its right to seek additional time and information from the Debtor to support its Application.

II. Limited Objection

- 5. To be clear, the U.S. Trustee does not object to the Debtor's retention and employment of Baker.
- 6. With respect the terms of the proposed Order, however, the U.S. Trustee has numerous issues and, in connection with those terms, has requested revisions. To date, the Debtor has failed to respond to those requested revisions.
- 7. Accordingly, the U.S. Trustee objects to entry of the proposed Order [ECF 67-1] without implementation of the U.S. Trustee's requested revisions.

III. Reservation of Rights

8. The U.S. Trustee reserves his right to supplement and/or amend this Limited Objection and to raise additional or further objections to the Application, at or prior to the hearing on the Application, or any other relevant hearing.

IV. Prayer

WHEREFORE, the U.S. Trustee prays that the Court: (a) sustain this Limited Objection; (b) continue the U.S. Trustee's objection deadline to the Application to a date acceptable to the U.S. Trustee so as to allow the U.S. Trustee to adequately respond to Debtor's response to the comments and requested revisions; and (c) grant such other and further relief as the Court deems just and equitable.

Dated: January 26, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

KEVIN M. EPSTEIN UNITED STATES TRUSTEE Region 7 Southern and Western Districts of Texas

By:/s/ Jana Smith Whitworth
Jana Smith Whitworth
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served by electronic means on all PACER participants, as listed below, on January 26, 2024.

By: <u>/s/ Jana Smith Whitworth</u> Jana Smith Whitworth

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2425 West Loop South 11th floor

0541-4

Case 23-34815

Southern District of Texas

Houston

Fri Jan 26 17:36:41 CST 2024

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Houston Community College System

United States Bankruptcy Court

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Case 23-34815 Document 85 Filed in TXSB on 01/26/24 Page 5 of 5 Kings 111 Emergency Communications

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The preferred mailing address (p) above has been substituted for the following entity/entities as so specified by said entity/entities in a Notice of Address filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 342(f) and Fed.R.Bank.P. 2002 (g) (4).

Harris County, ATTN: Property Tax Division Harris County Attorney's Office P.O. Box 2928 Houston, TX 77252-2928 United States

The following recipients may be/have been bypassed for notice due to an undeliverable (u) or duplicate (d) address.

(u) 2425 West Loop, LLC

End of Label Matrix
Mailable recipients 46
Bypassed recipients 1
Total 47